

U.S. Pat. App. Serial No. 10/719,831

AMENDMENT

Claims 1-370 (canceled).

371. (Original) A method of producing a modulated beam of electromagnetic energy comprising:

- [a] producing an initial beam of electromagnetic energy having a predetermined range of wavelengths and having a substantially uniform flux intensity substantially across the initial beam of electromagnetic energy;
- [b] separating the initial beam of electromagnetic energy into two or more separate beams of electromagnetic energy, each of the separate beams of electromagnetic energy having a selected predetermined orientation of a chosen component of electromagnetic wave field vectors;
- [c] altering the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electromagnetic wave field vectors of a plurality of portions of each of the separate beams of electromagnetic energy by passing the plurality of portions of each of the separate beams of electromagnetic energy through a respective one of a plurality of altering means whereby the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electromagnetic wave field vectors of the plurality of portions of each of the separate beams of electromagnetic energy is altered in response to a stimulus means by applying a signal means to the stimulus means in a predetermined manner as the plurality of portions of each of the substantially separate beams of electromagnetic energy passes through the respective one of the plurality of means for altering the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electromagnetic wave field vectors;
- [d] combining the altered separate beams of electromagnetic energy into a single collinear beam of electromagnetic energy without substantially changing the altered selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electromagnetic wave field vectors of the plurality of portions of each of the separate beams of electromagnetic energy;
- [e] resolving from the single collinear beam of electromagnetic energy a first resolved beam of electromagnetic energy having substantially a first selected predetermined orientation of a chosen component of electromagnetic wave field vectors and a second resolved beam of electromagnetic energy having substantially a

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second selected predetermined orientation of a chosen component of electromagnetic wave field vectors, whereby the first and second selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electromagnetic wave field vectors are different from one another; and

[f] altering the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electromagnetic wave field vectors of a plurality of portions of the resolved beam of electromagnetic energy by passing the plurality of portions of the resolved beam of electromagnetic energy through a altering means whereby the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electromagnetic wave field vectors of the plurality of portions of the resolved beam of electromagnetic energy is altered in response to a stimulus means by applying a signal means to the stimulus means in a predetermined manner as the plurality of portions of the resolved beam of electromagnetic energy passes through the plurality of means for altering the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electromagnetic wave field vectors.

372. (Original) A method of producing a modulated beam of light comprising:

[a] producing an initial beam of light having a predetermined range of wavelengths and having a substantially uniform flux intensity substantially across the initial beam of light;

[b] separating the initial beam of light into two or more separate beams of light, each of the separate beams of light having a selected predetermined orientation of a chosen component of electric field vectors;

[c] altering the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electric field vectors of a plurality of portions of each of the separate beams of light by passing the plurality of portions of each of the separate beams of light through a respective one of a plurality of altering means whereby the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electric field vectors of the plurality of portions of each of the separate beams of light is altered in response to a stimulus means by applying a signal means to the stimulus means in a predetermined manner as the plurality of portions of each of the substantially separate beams of light passes through the respective one of the plurality of means for altering the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electric field vectors;

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[d] combining the altered separate beams of light into a single collinear beam of light without substantially changing the altered selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electric field vectors of the plurality of portions of each of the separate beams of light;

[e] resolving from the single collinear beam of light a first resolved beam of light having substantially a first selected predetermined orientation of a chosen component of electric field vectors and a second resolved beam of light having substantially a second selected predetermined orientation of a chosen component of electric field vectors, whereby the first and second selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electric field vectors are different from one another; and

[f] altering the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electric field vectors of a plurality of portions of the resolved beam of light by passing the plurality of portions of the resolved beam of light through a altering means whereby the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electric field vectors of the plurality of portions of the resolved beam of light is altered in response to a stimulus means by applying a signal means to the stimulus means in a predetermined manner as the plurality of portions of the resolved beam of light passes through the plurality of means for altering the selected predetermined orientation of the chosen component of the electric field vectors.

Claims 373-438 (canceled).